

Travelling

Preparing for the flight

The trip to Finland takes place by aircraft. The departure happens at an Airport. Because each person is only allowed to take only 20 kilograms of luggage with them, it is important to plan ahead what things you want to take with you and what you have to leave behind. Although in international flights you might be allowed to have more than 20 kilograms of luggage in domestic Finnish flights, you cannot take more than 20 kilos of luggage.

When going on the trip you have to take with you the acquired travel documents and flight tickets. It is also important to take personal certificates. You do not need to take any cookware or other household products. Food or drinks are not allowed past the security control gate.

Check-in

When leaving for the airport it is important to leave early so you have enough time, there are many things to do before boarding the airplane. The airport is big and there are a lot of people. It is good to hold hand with the younger children and to stay close together, so nobody gets lost in the crowd. There are carts in the airport where you can put your luggage. You can go with the cart to the waiting line for the check-in.

In the check-in you present your travel documents and flight tickets. After this the clerk will ask you to put your luggage to the belt and they will weigh it. You can take with you to the passenger area of the airplane a small bag, but the rest of the luggage goes automatically to the interior luggage area of the airplane. There can be no liquid or sharp objects in the bag you take with you inside the airplane. You get a receipt of the luggage that goes to the interior of the plane and you have to look after that receipt well. This receipt is an important proof if the luggage gets lost on the way. They can be found later using that receipt.

The clerk will give you back the travel documents, flight tickets and the luggage receipt. If you have to switch flights during your journey, then you will also possibly get the ticket for the connecting flight. On the ticket you will find information about the departure gate and your seat number on the plane. You will have to show the ticket several times before boarding the plane.

Moving around in the airport

When moving around in the airport from floor to floor you can use the elevators, sliding stairs or stairs. Because the sliding stairs move automatically it is important to check that any skirt helms or heels of shoes do not get stuck between the stairs. You cannot go to the sliding stairs with carts. When you are

using the cart for luggage you have to use the elevator. You can also get into the airport if you are using a wheelchair. In this case the person will have an aid with them.

Passport check

Next you will go through the passport check. In the passport check you will present your travel documents and flight ticket. The clerk will take the documents and stamp the travel document. People go through the passport check individually. Family members can go together with the smaller children.

Security check

Next you go through the security check. When going to the security check everyone has to make sure that they are not carrying any food, liquids, scissors, forceps or other metal objects in their hand luggage.

The security check conducted by the airport personnel begins with placing the belt, bags, shoes and outer clothing into a basket which is found at the beginning of the security check. Also laptops are placed in a basket of their own. The baskets are then placed on a moving belt and they go through an x-ray machine. If there are any forbidden objects, they are removed. At this point you also show the personnel your travel documents and flight tickets.

After this, the clerk in charge of the security will call the passenger through a security gate. Sometimes you have to take off your shoes as well, but the personnel will inform you separately. If there is anything odd in the security check, the personnel will check the passenger once again. All this increases the safety of the passengers.

Boarding the plane

After the security check you will arrive at the international side and you will proceed to the gate where your plane is leaving from. The gate will be told to you at the check-in and it can be seen on the ticket and the electronic boards at the airport.

At the gate you will wait until announcement that the plane is ready to be boarded. Sometimes the plane leaves late and you will have to wait a longer time. When the announcement is made that the airplane is ready to be boarded, all the passengers will get into a queue. At your turn you will present the clerk with your travel documents and flight ticket. After this you will go through a tube which will lead you to the aircraft and you will go to the seat with your number. The bags you have with you will be placed at the luggage space above the seats.

There are staff members in the airplane who will help you during your trip. During your trip some food and drinks will be provided. There are toilets in the airplanes. During take off and landing everyone must stay at their seats with the seatbelt on. There is no smoking allowed on the aircraft and mobile phones must be switched off.

The flight will take many hours. Usually there is a transit landing in another country. Transit landing means you will have to leave the airplane and switch to another one before you get to Finland. At the transit place you will have to show your travel documents and the tickets for the continuation flight and possibly go through a security check. The luggage that goes to the interior of the airplane will go automatically to Finland.

Arriving in Finland

You will arrive to Finland, Helsinki, to the airport. First you will have to show your travel documents at the passport check. You will give the documents to the clerk. People go through the passport check one by one. The smallest children can be with their parents.

The Finnish authorities will take the personal details, photographs and finger prints when you arrive to Finland or soon after you have been registered as having arrived to Finland.

After the Passport check, everyone will go to a large hall where you will wait for your luggage which you left at the belt at the check in of the departure country. The luggage's will arrive at separate belts according to the flights. You can check your own flight from the electronic board. It is important to make sure all the luggage has arrived. There are carts in the hall where you can place your luggage. When all the luggage has arrived you will follow the green line towards the exits. This means you have no goods to declare. Then you have left the international area and your journey in Finland can begin.